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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/692,739	10/27/2003	Liang-Jen Chang	CHANG187	8863

1444 7590 06/11/2004

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WASHINGTON, DC 20001-5303

EXAMINER

LANGDON, EVAN H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3654

DATE MAILED: 06/11/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/692,739

Applicant(s)

CHANG, LIANG-JEN

Examiner

Evan H Langdon

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 4-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2 and 3 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 4 and 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kitajima (US 2003/0146325 A1).

Kitajima discloses a spinning reel, comprising:

a reel body 2 having a connection portion 36 for connecting the reel body to a fishing rod, and an engagement portion 27;

a handle 1 rotatably mounted on the reel body 2;

a rotor 3 having a hole fitted onto the engagement portion 27 of the reel body to mask the engagement portion;

a spool 4 rotatably mounted on the reel body for a fishing line wound thereon; and

a cover 38, as seen in Figure 4, mounted on the reel body to mask a portion of the reel body, the cover having two arms each of which have a distal end coupled to the engagement portion, via the reel body.

In regards to claims 4 and 5, Kitajima discloses the reel body having a lowland portion on which the cover 38 is mounted, and the cover having openings.

Claim 1, 4 and 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sugawara (US 2002/0056776 A1).

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Sugawara discloses a spinning reel, comprising:

a reel body 2 having a connection portion 2b for connecting the reel body to a fishing rod,
and an engagement portion 2e,2g;

a handle 1 rotatably mounted on the reel body 2;

a rotor 3 having a hole fitted onto the engagement portion 2e,2g of the reel body to mask
the engagement portion;

a spool 4 rotatably mounted on the reel body for a fishing line wound thereon; and

a cover 13, as seen in Figure 3, mounted on the reel body to mask a portion of the reel
body, the cover having two arms each of which have a distal end coupled to the engagement
portion, via the reel body.

In regards to claims 4 and 5, Sugawara discloses the reel body having a lowland portion
on which the cover 13 is mounted, and the cover having openings.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all
obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 6-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kitajima.

Kitajima discloses a spinning reel, comprising:

a reel body 2 having a connection portion 36 for connecting the reel body to a fishing rod,
and an engagement portion 27;

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a handle 1 rotatably mounted on the reel body 2;

a rotor 3 having a hole fitted onto the engagement portion 27 of the reel body to mask the engagement portion;

a spool 4 rotatably mounted on the reel body for a fishing line wound thereon; and

a cover 38 mounted on the reel body to mask a portion of the reel body, the cover having two arms each having a distal end and one distal end having a screw hole for coupling the cover by a screw means to the holes of the reel body.

Kitajima fails to show each arm forming a hooking portion.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the distal ends of Kitajima to include hooking portions as an alternative fastening means to a screw means.

In regards to claims 4 and 5, Kitajima teaches the reel body having a lowland portion on which the cover 38 is mounted, and the cover having openings.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2 and 3 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Claim 2 contains patentable subject matter because the teachings of the prior art taken as a whole do not show or render obvious the combination set forth, including the engagement portion of the

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reel body having two thread holes, and two bolts are inserted through a hole and the distal end of each arm of the cover to fasten in the threaded holes of the engagement portion.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Claim 3 contains patentable subject matter because the teachings of the prior art taken as a whole do not show or render obvious the combination set forth, including the engagement portion of the reel body having two holes, the distal end of each arm of the cover having a hooking portion to fasten in the holes of the engagement portion.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

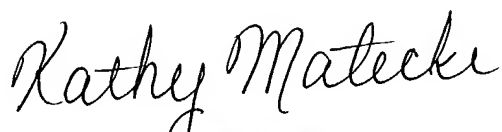
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Evan H Langdon whose telephone number is (703)-306-5768. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kathy Matecki can be reached on (703)-308-2688. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ehl

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathy Matecki".

KATHY MATECKI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600